

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/825,832

Examiner

Ashok B. Patel

Applicant(s)

WU, CHARLES

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/07/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-5 are allowed.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark Farrell on 05/16/2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

- a. Please amend the paragraph appearing on page 1, line 2 as follows:

This application is a divisional application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/326,163, filed June 4, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6, 862, 617, entitled "system and Method for Synchronizing Objects Between Two Devices," to Charles Wu, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/103,859, filed October 12, 1998, entitled "flexible Grouping of Objects During Synchronization", to Charles Wu.

In the claims:

- b. Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of synchronizing objects between two devices when some of the objects are intermittently unavailable on one of the devices, ~~wherein the method prevents the devices from deleting an object when its~~

Art Unit: 2154

~~corresponding object on the other device is unavailable during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects, comprising:~~

creating a list of the objects to update on a first computing device and a second computing device, wherein the objects on the second computing device are updated using corresponding objects on the first computing; and

if an object is on the list, then instructing the second computing device to refrain from updating the object when the first computing device cannot access the corresponding object; and

wherein the method prevents the devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object on the other device is unavailable during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A method maintaining contemporaneous data items within corresponding objects when one of the corresponding objects has new data items, ~~wherein the method prevents devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object is unavailable during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects, comprising:~~

listing pairs of corresponding objects, wherein a first member of each pair resides on a first computing device and a second member of each pair resides on a second computing device;

synchronizing each available pair of objects with new data items from either object in the pair; and

Art Unit: 2154

protecting an object and the data items it contains from deletion during synchronization if a corresponding object in a listed pair is unavailable; and

wherein the method prevents devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object is unavailable during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A method of maintaining contemporaneous corresponding objects on a first and a second device ~~throughout synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects, wherein the method prevents the devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object is unavailable,~~ comprising:

creating a list of corresponding objects prior to the synchronization;

during synchronization, determining if an object on the list exists in the first device;

if the object does not exist in the first device then determining if the object exists in the second device; and

if the object exists in the second device then protecting the object from deletion caused by the synchronization and allowing the first device to access the object or providing the object to the first device; and

wherein the method prevents devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object is unavailable throughout synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects.

Art Unit: 2154

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A synchronization method for computing devices, ~~wherein the method prevents devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object is unavailable during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects~~, comprising:

creating a list of corresponding objects stored on two computing devices;

communicatively coupling the two computing devices for synchronization; and

preventing deletion of the object during synchronization when the corresponding object is unavailable and the object is on the list; and

wherein the method prevents devices from deleting an object when its corresponding object is unavailable during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects.

#### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior arts of record teach or suggest automatically preventing deletion of objects during synchronization processes that try to automatically delete such objects.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2154

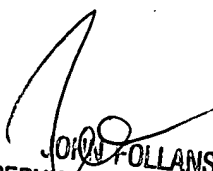
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp

\*\*\*

  
JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100